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***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

My wife and I recently returned from a holiday in Florida. Our holiday included visits to Disney World and the four major theme parks. We also visited Cocoa Beach and Clearwater Beach. We visited several coin shops and many antique shops but did not discover any wooden nickel finds although I did find some American wooden nickels from the 60's. The highlight of our visit was seeing a pair of whooping Cranes wandering through the streets of a Tampa Bay subdivision. Many of you will remember the Whooping Crane woods prepared by Glen Littrell of Texas.

While in Florida I received the sad news that Reginald Smith passed away of a heart condition. Reg was one of the Charter members of CAWMC and was one of the pioneer collectors of wooden tokens. Reg had sold his collection in the 1990s but briefly resumed collecting in the early 2000's. Reg was also a pioneer collector of merchant tokens. Reg will be missed by all who knew him.

We were greeted by eight inches of snow and 20 below Centigrade, a vast change from Florida..

I have received many renewals for 2009 membership and I would like to remind the few that still have not renewed that is now time to renew your membership. If you have any questions on your membership status please e-mail me at [wood5cents@shaw.ca](mailto:wood5cents@shaw.ca) or please phone me at 403-273-6133. You can also reach me at Box 2643 Station M, Calgary, Alberta T2P 3C1.

By the time you read this message Christmas and New Years will have come and gone for another year. I hope my Christmas flats arrived safely with the December Issue or with the special mailing of free woods. If any of the flats arrived damaged please contact me as indicated above and I will send a replacement in secure packaging.

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**Editor's Remarks TT January 2009**

Happy New Year to all members, collectors and dealers as well as manufacturers that strike our wooden collectables. 2008 was a busy year for our hobby and our association. Our July visit to the last CNA convention in Ottawa was certainly a highlight, and we look forward to an Alberta visit for the first RCNA convention in Edmonton this August. I suggest that members make their travel and hotel reservations early as I expect this convention to be a popular one!

I am very pleased with the first few issues we have produced since going digital. I encourage any remaining snailmail subscribers to convert to receiving the full colour version electronically.

I also continue to invite members to submit articles. Profiles of collectors and woods producers are particularly welcome. Speaking of free, I hope all our readers also subscribe for the eh-bulletin, produced by long-time CAWMC member, numismatist and bon vivant John Regitko. Email [coinman@look.ca](mailto:coinman@look.ca) to be added to the subscriber lists. John promises a money-back guarantee for your free subscription.

**Famous Last Words:**

"Gentlemen, you are about to see the effect of electricity on wood."

Charles Frederick Wood, 1963, while facing his death penalty on the electric chair.

**PAST PRESIDENTS:**

Garry Braunwarth: 1975 - 1977

Victor Hall: 1977 - 1979 \*

Don Robb: 1979 - 1981

Stanley Clute: 1981 - 1983

Neil Probert: 1983 - 1985

Norm Belsten: 1985 - 1991

Pat White: 1991 - 1995 \*

Lou Vesh: 1995 - 2001

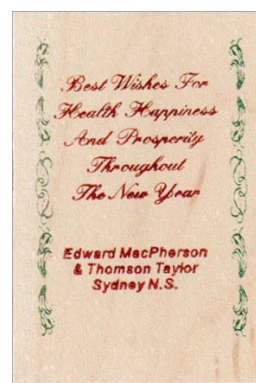
Earl Salterio: 2001 - 2003 \*

Norm Belsten: 2003 - 2005

(\* Deceased)

***FREE WOOD OF THE MONTH***

The free wood this month, donated by Edward MacPherson & Thomson Taylor, was mailed out with last years woods as it is a 2008 Christmas wood. The wood is shown below. The obverse is red angel with green border, reverse a red verse, green border.

**CAWMC OFFICERS**

President: AL MUNRO  
 Vice-president: ART STEPHENSON  
 Secretary-Treasurer and Membership Chairman:  
 AL MUNRO

Past-President and Chairman of the Board of  
 Governors: NORM BELSTEN

Elected Members of the Board of Governors:  
 BOB BROWN, RUSSELL BROWN,  
 DAVE GILLESPIE, ED MacPHERSON,  
 LOU VESH, JAMES WILLISTON.

**APPOINTED OFFICERS**

Editor: TONY HINE  
 Distribution-Canada: ROSS KINGDON  
 Distribution-US: RICHARD BLAYLOCK  
 Fund Raiser: LOU VESH & DAVE GILLESPIE  
 Auction coordinator: AL MUNRO

**DUES:**

Membership dues in the Canadian Association  
 Of Wooden Money Collectors are:  
 Canadian Residents: \$10.00 Canadian Funds  
 United States Residents: \$10.00 U.S. Funds  
 International Members Rate (outside of Canada  
 And the U.S.): \$20.00 Canadian Funds  
 Youth (16 years of age and under): \$5.00  
 Dues paid to Mr. Al Munro, Box 2643  
 Stn. 'M' Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 3C1

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***NEED INFORMATION AND PICTURES FOR  
THE WOODEN MONEY CATALOGUE***

For those who have my listings or picture catalogue there are some missing information and pictures. If anyone has any of the Information please contact me at 86 Hamilton Dr. Newmarket, ON L3Y 3E8 or email at nbelsten@sympatico.ca  
 With out the help of the member I could not have produced the listings or catalogue as unfortunately I do not have all the woods to be able to scan them, in colour and in black and white.

Thanks Norm Belsten CAWMC C45

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***New Member Report:***

Denise Dalphy 1975 Lauder Drive, Ottawa,  
 Ontario, K2A 1B3

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***Your Editor needs more articles.***

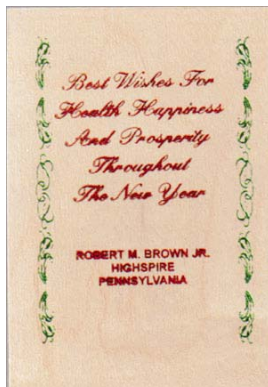
Most of you have at one time or another come across a wood that is different, not listed, or just a new issue. Please write a short article on any wood that you feel is different, or that has a history behind the issuing of it. It doesn't have to fill even one page as we always need some fillers to finish a page. Thanks

## 2008 CHRISTMAS WOODS

The Christmas woods for Al & Marion Munro and Edward MacPherson & Thomson Taylor were shown as the free woods of the month, for December & January.



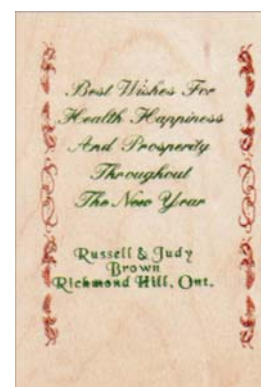
Tree green, border red



Verse red, border green



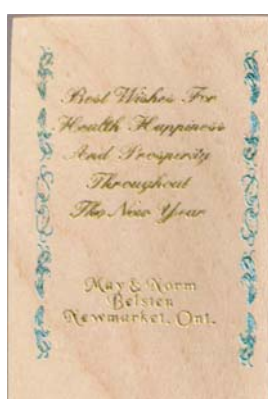
Angel red, border green



Verse green, border red

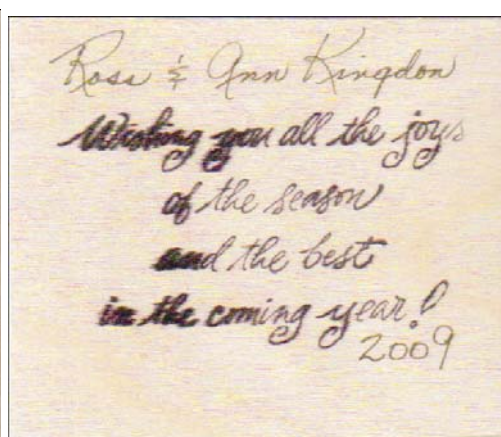


Angel gold, border blue

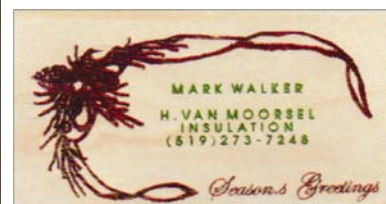


Verse gold, border blue

The three previous woods all had 100 issued



The obverse hand painted in white, blue, red, black, and brown. Reverse verse is red and the name is green. 30 were issued.



Design red, lettering green, Reverse is blank

This wood has the obverse hand painted in red, white, black, and purple. The reverse is black and 35 were issued.



### 2008 CHRISTMAS WOODS



Wood is green both sides



Wood is red both sides



Obverse green, reverse red



Obverse red, reverse red and blue



Obverse is red, blue &amp; yellow Reverse is red



Obverse black, reverse black

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### SAMBO'S CORNER REVISITED

By Bob Brown

I received the wood shown below some time ago but have never been able to find out anything about it. Since it is from Mesa Junction I assumed it was from Arizona, but when I looked it up in the Zip Code Directory there was no Mesa junction listed for Arizona.



It is different from any Sambo's I have seen before, and I have a very large collection. It is the traditional red in colour as were most Sambo's, except for the Bicentennials, but whereas most of them were for a meal or coffee this one is for 10¢ on the purchase of 50¢ or more of Sambo's Popcorn. I do not remember ever seeing a Sambo's token that said anything about Popcorn before.

Can anyone supply me with information on this piece? Any information that is sent to me will be listed at some future date in this column and credit given to the person that supplies the information.

If anyone has any Sambo's that have not been previously listed in Merlin Malehorn's book "COFFEE ANYONE" please send me good clear copies of the woods and I will list them in this column at some future date. I would also be interested in acquiring any unlisted Sambo's for my collection.

## THE WOODS OF MATTHEW SZTYM



Matthew Sztym handed out a few of the above wooden nickels at the 2008 CNA Convention in Ottawa. He stated: "Never take a real nickel glued to a wooden nickel. In the end, it is still a wooden nickel. Good for 100 cents, GST included. Antiques is spelled wrong, though no one cares! They got a free nickel."

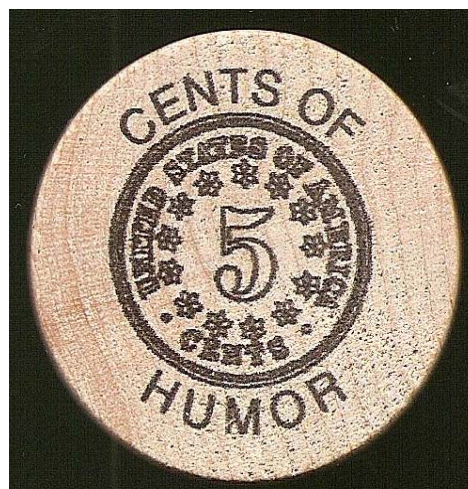
The Cents of Humor issue was made by a Texas wooden money manufacturer. Matthew won 100 examples in one of their promotional contests. He pointed out that he won the wooden nickels with a 5th place finish (out of 5) in a POLITICS design contest. He states: "CNA is in Ottawa (Canada's capital and the seat of the Federal Government), thought that was kind of interesting....even in last place one can still get money from Politics."

"The only way to receive one of these nickels is to find me on the bourse floor, the Mint Reception or the Bank of Canada Reception, and ask for one personally. I will only give them out to those who ask because I do not have enough to go around. The Edmonton Numismatic Society members have already picked through the lot so I will have only around 60-80 examples to give out at the CNA. I will also be giving out some of them to people around Ottawa I know personally."

A U.S. 5-cent coin design is printed on one side by the manufacturer, as illustrated below. However, the true issue has a 2008 Canadian 5-cent super-glued over the early U.S. 5-cent coin design by Matthew, to commemorate the Royal Canadian Mint's 100th anniversary.

Matthew's first issue was just for advertising when he first started selling at flea markets. "It was an easy way for people to remember me. I still get calls from people I gave them to four years ago although I no longer use that phone number," he told me.

I believe that, with one exception, none of Matthew's wooden nickels and other numismatic collectibles have ever been written up. I featured his material at the Show and Tell session at the August 2008 meeting of the Mississauga Etobicoke Coin Stamp and Collectibles Club (MECSCC) and then included details in the club's bulletin. I am pleased to share the backgrounder with members of CAWMC on this and the next page.



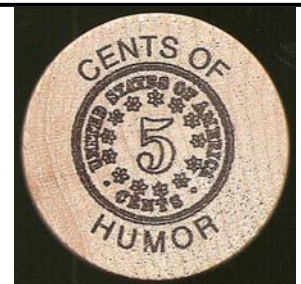


At age 14, Matthew purchased a pop machine that he set up in a shop. Next, he purchased a candy bar machine that he set up beside the pop machine. Combined, these machines were generating an income of around \$5000 a year, a pretty amazing amount of money for a 14 year old. He set up at flea markets, antique shows and coin shows. By the age of 17, he renamed his business Rocky Mountain Coin & Antiques. When he was 19, he was offered jobs in the Alberta Legislature. Although Matthew's ambition to be a full-time antique dealer has been put on hold for politics, he still continues to set up at various shows and conventions across Canada.

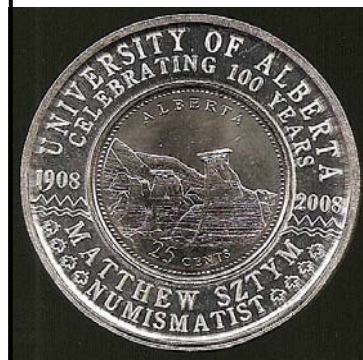
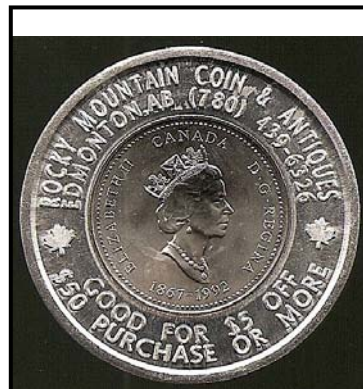
Since publishing my "John Regitko's Eh-Bulletin, I have made a number of new numismatic friends. Matthew gave me a set of his issues which included two wooden tokens that he has issued. His first issue from 2004 contains contact information when he was located in Red Deer, Alberta, where he was born in 1989, while the other one contains current contact information.



Matthew Sztym's previous business card was issued in 2004, with a mintage of 500 pieces.



Matthew Sztym's current business card of which a quantity of 500 were also produced.



In the last 3 years, Matthew has produced three different trade tokens. The one at left was issued in 2008 with a mintage of 200. They have an aluminum ring containing a 1992 25-cent coin. The one in the center was issued in 2007 with a mintage of only 40, containing a copper ring with 2007 25-cent centers. The one on the right was issued in 2006 with a mintage of 500. The aluminum ring contains a 2004 "Poppy" 25-cent coin. All three contain his current contact information in Edmonton.